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NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA FEBRUARY 2016 ISSUE 6

Northwest classes prepare students for life

AMANDA DECKER
STAFF WRITER

High school, does it prepare you for college? In my opinion, it does.

Here at Northwest, the school does many things to help prepare students for college and for life after schooling.

One class that you can take is ACT Prep. As you may know, the ACT is a major part of preparing for college. The ACT prep course was added to assist committed students in preparing for and developing the skills necessary to improve their ACT scores. My recommendation is to take this class either your sophomore or junior year. It could really make an impact on your ACT score.

Teachers at Northwest want to see us succeed in life and for the road ahead. When a student is failing a class, teachers will do all that they can to help bring the student's grade up. Underclassmen need to understand that, if they do not get good grades, it will affect them later on.

Some people are probably thinking that the school doesn't let us take some of the classes we want to take, or they don't help us enough. However, I think the school helps us plenty.

Before everyone starts really judging, give the school a second chance. Then, everyone will see that they actually have plenty of ways to help. Some students just don't use it to their advantage.

My advice for you: don't give up just yet.

If you want to be prepared for the real world, I would suggest taking the new class [coming next school year] called Reality 101.

Reality 101 will focus on helping students learn important things for life after they grauate. Topics it will focus on are: interest rates, credit cards, insurance, automotive upkeep, and also domestic skills.

For example, if no one has taken accounting, it wouldn't hurt to take it.

Accounting is a two semester class where students learn to: analyze transactions, journalize, post, and complete financial statements. Students will also work with service and merchandising businesses, sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations.

Bottom line is, you are the only one that controls your life and the school offers plenty of opportunities. Make the most of it, and try your best!

Viking Alumni

"Did high school prepare you for the 'real world'"?

"I don't think high school prepared me. Teachers in college couldn't care less if you do your homework, your readings or even come to class. In high school teachers were always there to help you if you needed it or to guide you in anyway you chose. College is much different. You are thrown into new living arrangements, have no money, do not have parents to make decisions for you, it's honestly a whole new world and I don't think anyone can prepare you for that change."

Caiti Lilienthal, Class of 2015

"High school sports taught me a lot about working with teams and groups. Choir taught me that if you want something bad enough, you have to work hard and you can get it. My advanced classes taught me that school work isn't always gonna be easy. But there a few things in high school that didn't teach me. Like how to apply for school loans, how to pay taxes, and how to write more than a two page paper, "

Katie Goesch, Class of 2013

Viking Saga

Northwest High School
2710 N. North Rd.
Grand Island, NE 68803
308.385.6394
www.ginorthwest.org

Co-Editors-in-Chief
Jennifer Clement
Alex Stocker

Staff
Amanda Decker
Mitchell Evans
Austin Fransisco
Reiley Hillman
Brenden Holling
Lacie Nelson
Celeste Thompson

Adviser
Elizabeth Kavan

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The dance team prepares itself for the future

CELESTE THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

In the dance world, Northwest is well known for their very own dance team. They have seven members: sophomore Rebekah Saddler, freshman Heidi Cooper, junior Morgan Garrett, junior Joel Erdmann, freshman Madison Robert, freshman Elise Espeland, and freshman Katanah Tuxhorn.

The team practices often for about an hour and fifteen minutes.

"We practice Monday mornings at 6:30-7:45, Wednesdays from 2:45-4 and Friday after school from 3:45-5," Garrett said.

This year at the NDA (National Dance Association) they performed "Diva," which is a hip hop routine.

"We got third overall and a bid to nationals," Garrett said.

They also had another competition at Ralston High School.

"We took our jazz number 'Pirates' and got first in class A/B division," Garrett said.

The team is trying to fundraise to be able to go to more competitions. They compete with two dance routines.

"[We] typically [compete with] one jazz and one hip hop," Cooper said.

The state competition is February 20th.

"For State we are taking a jazz routine 'Pirates', and a hip hop routine 'Drop it on the One'," Garrett said.

They got third place for their hip hop number and fifth place for their jazz number.

The new addition is someone who is well known for dancing in many activities at Northwest - Joel Erdmann.

"Yes, Joel is an official member; this year he considers himself a walk on member," Garrett said.

Erdmann has bringing a lot of positivity to the team.

"He definitely pushes me to be better," Garrett said.

He contributes many things to the team.

"Joel is a great dancer and he has many tricks that contributes to our team," Tuxhorn said.

Last year they had hired new dance coaches, Ryan and Kate McCarty.

"I think our coaches are great," Tuxhorn said.

The Northwest Dance Team tryouts for the next school year are coming soon, so interested students should watch for more information.

The Northwest dance team: Madison Roberts, Elise Espeland, Heidi Cooper, Rebekah Saddler, Joel Erdman, Morgan Garrett, Katanah Tuxhorn.
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NORTHWEST DANCE TEAM FACEBOOK PAGE

Anna Korte gets granted the ultimate wish

Anna Korte prepares for her big night with other Make-A-Wish recipients.
PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNA KORTE

CELESTE THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

Anna Korte's wildest dreams came true when she got her wish granted by the Make-A-Wish Foundation. She got the opportunity to visit Los Angeles, California for a week.

Korte and her family flew to LA on Tuesday, February 9th.

Along with the Grammys, Korte and her family got to spend a whole day at Universal Studios; they also visited the California Science Center and Ripley's: Believe It or Not museum.

"While we were at the science center, there were Olympic marathon runners passing us, men and women. It was really fun to watch them. It was pretty cool [At Ripley's]. There was a lot of paintings, art of weird things," Korte said.

While in L.A, Korte made memories with the stars.

"We walked down Hollywood Boulevard and saw the celebrities' stars and we took some pictures with those. We also got to see Jimmy Kimmel's live studio because it was down the road from our hotel," Korte said.

Korte learned a lot about the history of the Grammys while on her trip.

"We went to the Grammy museum and they had awards on display and it was really cool. They had a video of performances from the beginning of the Grammys up to now and a timeline," Korte said.

After a few days of fun with her family, Korte's wish was finally granted to her.

"I made my wish about two years ago and then a year ago it was finally granted it to me. Two ladies from the Make-A-Wish Foundation came to interview me and asked me what I wanted to do, and I said 'to go to the Grammys or Paris,'" Korte said.

She had the time of her life the night of the Grammys.

"[One of] my favorite parts of going to the Grammys was that we were seated near the entrance where the performers were going in and out so we got to see all of them going in and going out. Seeing the celebrities on the red carpet and getting autographs was my [all time] favorite part. I got to see famous people kind of acting like normal," Korte said.

Korte also had the opportunity met with other girls with the same wish from around the country.

"There were three other girls that had the same wish as I did. One was from New Jersey, one was from Virginia, and the last one was from Pittsburgh. They all were around my age," Korte said.

The day of the Grammys, Korte got to get dolled up by a professional.

"On the day of the Grammys, at 8 am, we got to go get our hair and makeup done. Then we got picked up in a limo and arrived at the red carpet," Korte said.

Korte partied at the Grammys after-party.

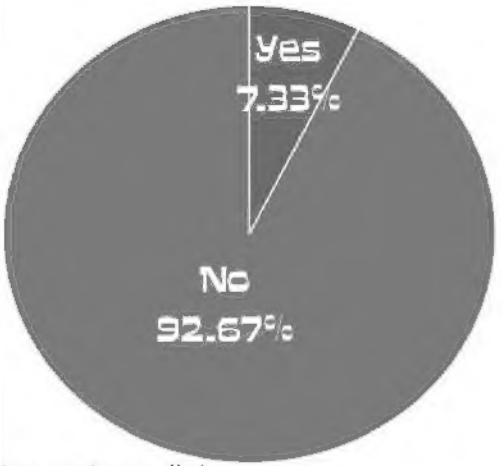
"There was an after-party and this year the theme was 'Candyland'," Korte said.

She enjoyed getting dressed up for her big day.

"I'd say the Grammys was my favorite part of the trip because it's not everyday that you get to wear a ball gown," Korte said.

Adoption affects many students at Northwest

ALEX STOCKER
CO - EDITOR



*150 students polled

Students who are adopted

Adoption affects students and staff at Northwest in many different ways. Some like seniors Austin Dammann and Maeda Findley were adopted personally, while others like senior Rylee Bahe had cousins who were adopted.

"My brothers and I are adopted," Dammann said.

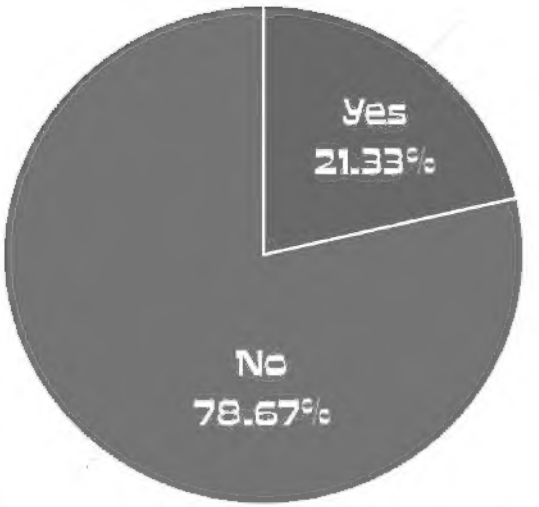
Adoption has touched the life of a particular student as well as her parents.

"I was in the foster system for 6 or 7 years, and was being shuffled around from home to home. After finally being in a home that loved and supported me, it was like an answer to my prayers. It was also good for my adopted parents since it gave them a chance to be parents, which they are really good at," Findley said.

Those who have been adopted like Findley and Dammann would encourage others to adopt.

"Yes [I would encourage others to adopt], absolutely," Dammann said.

"Yes, [I would encourage others to adopt], but I would also warn them that sometimes there are problems that can occur after the adoption, like the kids rebelling," Findley said.



*150 students polled

Students who have family members adopted

Northwest cheer team finishes season with new coach

JENNIFER CLEMENT
CO-EDITOR

When most think of the word "cheerleader," they think of the stereotypical preppy blonde girl with a high pitched voice. That is not the case for the cheerleaders at Northwest High School.

The Northwest cheerleading team is not only known for their many accomplishments within the last few years, but for the strong bond between the 14 girls.

"[I love] the bond with the 14 other girls, and [I am happy] knowing they have my back," junior Jessica Hoffman said.

The team has gone through many changes this school year, and one major change is that they are now coached by college student Maranda Oberschulte.

"I absolutely love our new coach! She is the bomb. She is absolutely amazing. She really understands us, and really values the bond of coach and student," Hoffman said.

The season is now over, and the team has made many memories together during the months [and in some cases, years] they have worked together.

Before their state competition on February 20th, the girls already knew that they were going to do the very best they could.

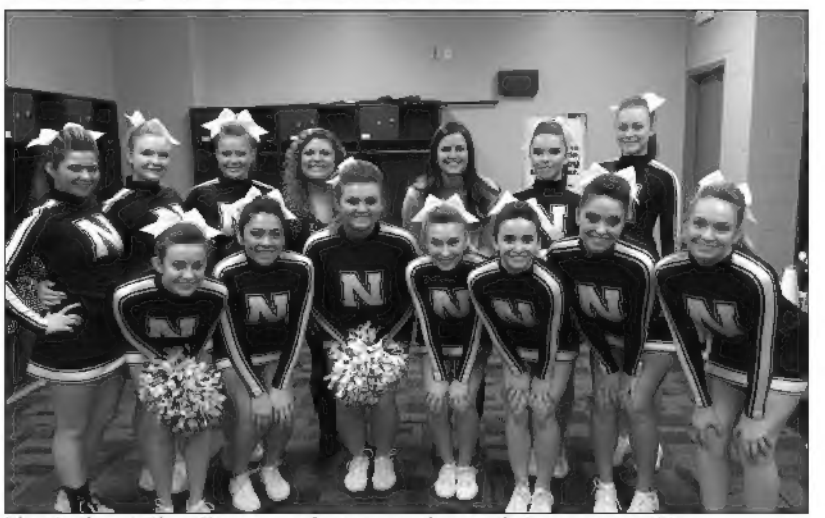
"I am hoping that we all give our 110%, and hopefully, we can get [the placing] we deserve," Hoffman said.

That following Saturday, the girls traveled to their state competition at the Heartland Event Center in Grand Island, Nebraska with the Northwest dance team.

The Northwest cheerleading team received 6th place with their routine and the Northwest Dance Team received third over all for hiphop and fifth place for their Jazz performance.

Even though their season is now completed, they have started the early preparations for next year's tryouts. The cheerleaders highly encourage everyone [who's interested] to try out.

"Just go for it. Even if you are unsure about it, because it definitely makes high school way more fun. There are a lot of memories that you could create," senior MaCall Sekutara said.



The Northwest Cheer Team poses for a group photo at their state competition.
Photo courtesy of Emma Fockmann

The news of Barbie's new look has people talking

JENNIFER CLEMENT
CO -EDITOR

The Barbie fashion doll has gone through many different looks over the years, but her latest transformation has the public's overall approval.

Since 1959, young children everywhere had yearned to have the latest Barbie doll of their very own.

Millions of these dolls were sold everyday in almost every major department store around the United States. Barbie has taken over the country [and the world] with her multiple playsets, clothing, and thirty-three animated movies.

For years, the last decade especially, parents felt that Barbie was giving their children a false image on how they should or shouldn't look. Barbie made it hard for them to teach their children about the importance of self respect, and how to embrace their inner beauty. Girls grew up thinking that they were not perfect "like Barbie." This was a major problem.

Recently, Mattel, Inc [the company that founded the Barbie dolls] had accepted, and acted upon, the long-awaited pleas from its consumers that Barbie should look more realistic.

Barbie now has three different body types; curvy, petite, and tall. She also has seven different skin tones, 22 eye colors, distinctive "face sculpts", and 24 unique hair styles.

"[I played with Barbie dolls when I was little, and] I think it is a good idea not to have the one standard Barbie. I think it is cool that they are making them more unique," sophomore Sharilin Tuttle said.

Mattel, Inc recently released the renewed Barbie fashion dolls to have different body types, skin colors, and faces. The media has mixed feelings about the reborn dolls.

Though children are celebrating, the adults found one problem. Due to the fact that all the Barbies are different, they could no longer share clothing with the other dolls. If a child had a doll, they could only dress it in the outfits that were made for that doll alone.

This leads to more purchases. That might be a good thing for Mattel, Inc, but it might not be so nice for the consumers' wallets.

Overall, the general public appreciates this change in the dolls. They hope it will bring young girls everywhere to appreciate their bodies; that alone will improve their self esteem over time.

Toy companies will soon see if this change works, and if it does, they will likely be following in Barbie's pink, stilettoed footsteps. The dolls are said to appear in stores spring of 2016.

"I think it is cool that they want everyone to be able to look like Barbie, but it is also a doll, so you can not compare yourself to it," junior Carissa Jonak said.

Compatibility Test: Match made in Northwest

MITCHELL EVANS
STAFF WRITER

February is known as the month of love, where couples celebrate their love and affection for each other. There are also the single people who do not have a significant other to celebrate the month of love with.

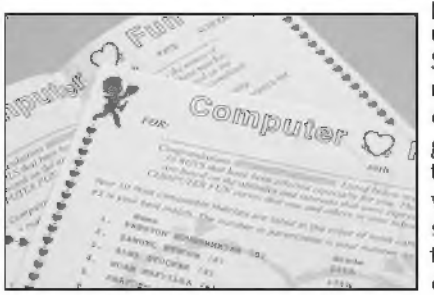
Students don't need to despair because Northwest has thought of a way to help you with that. Thanks to the student council, students have a chance to find someone who shares common qualities. How do they do this? The compatability test.

Northwest likes to celebrate Valentine's day in a fun way. Every year, Mrs. McNeel has the students of Northwest fill out a test with simple questions about the students' interests and habits. Based on the results, the student gets paired with multiple students whose results are similar.

The tests have been part of Northwest's tradition since McNeel started teaching at Northwest.

"The compatibility tests have been going on as long as I have been at Northwest--at least 17 plus years," McNeel said.

The compatibility test originally began as a way to raise money for a fundraiser. Then, after the fundraiser, Northwest's students liked the test so much that they continued to do it year after year.



Every year an estimated 300 to over 450 students participate in the enjoyable activity of the compatibility test. The tests are sent to a company that will use computer software to match the students up with one another.

"Students are matched up based on how they answered the survey. We send the completed survey back to a company called Computer Fun and they input the answers each student recorded. Then a computer matches up the students. Students are matched with others in their grade and then matched with the entire school. So, there are two options for their results," McNeel said.

Many students enjoy taking the test. Their matches can be interesting because people may not even know the people who they have been paired with.

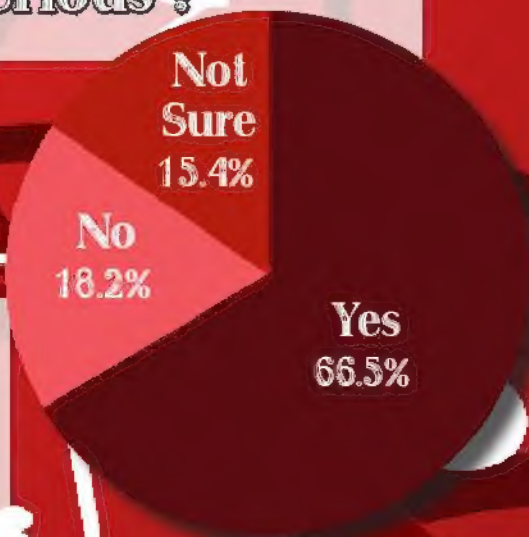
"It's also fun to watch students open their list[s] and look at who is on the list and they don't even know some of the people on their lists. That usually happens with the whole school match," said McNeel.

The compatibility test is a fun and creative way to celebrate Valentine's Day at Northwest. It could help students find other students who share some of the same likes and qualities that they do.

Maybe all the single people out there can use this test to their advantage and even have some fun meeting someone new.

Are you currently in a relationship?

Would you consider your relationship to be "serious"?



40% of students in a relationship have been in that relationship for more than a year

Students struggle with relationship stressors

Reiley Hillman
STAFF WRITER

One big thing people associate high school with is dating. Some have that fantasy of marrying their high school sweetheart, or some are in it just for fun. Others use it for their street cred, or use their relationship to lie about what base they've gotten to.

High school is the time where teens start to branch out on their own and find out what their tastes are and what type of person they like. Some may not even choose to date until college.

"Student dating is really up to the individual. I think 'dating' is too much pressure. I like the idea of a group date where students get to hang out with someone significant but yet also have the safety of their friends around," guidance counselor Lori Merritt said.

Most teenagers want to date for several reasons. They feel that they want some kind of thrill in their life. Some even date because they want to experience the drama that comes along with it. Many believe that one reason teenagers want to date is that they want to experience being loved and being affectionate for another person.

"I think everyone wants to feel loved and needed. It is reassuring to have someone care about you. Most people look for approval outside of themselves. It is tough because people often look for validation from an outside source. If we could all be self-confident enough to love ourselves, we wouldn't always be looking for someone else to give us that validation. I think you have to be a happy single person to become part of a happy couple," Merritt said.

Sometimes teens tend to realize it is better to wait for the right person to show up rather than go through several people that which lead to broken relationships. They also realize that it's a personal decision of when to start having a significant other. Other times, high schoolers give into peer pressure and don't make decisions for themselves.

"Peer pressure can sometimes cause break ups, a student's friends can exert their influence on a couple. Often friends might not approve or like the new addition to the group and can stir the pot making it hard for the couple to be together. Students are often at different maturity levels also when they start dating. This can lead to expectations by one person that the other person isn't ready for. Some students want to be with that person 24/7 while the other might want to hang out with friends," Merritt said.

Many high schoolers will go through everything to make sure their relationship stays together, when in all reality, things just may not work out. Sometimes people are too different for things to go smoothly.

Many can reflect on past relationships in order to grow.

"I would guess that most adults can remember a break up they went through that at the time tore them apart, but looking back years later it has changed. Usually, you look back and go wow - I am glad that didn't work out. It was for the best. It is so hard to see that in the present but you will grow from it and hopefully become a stronger person," Merritt said.

What is love?

What makes a healthy relationship?

-Respect-
-Speaking your mind-
-Trust-
-Honesty-
-Having your own space-

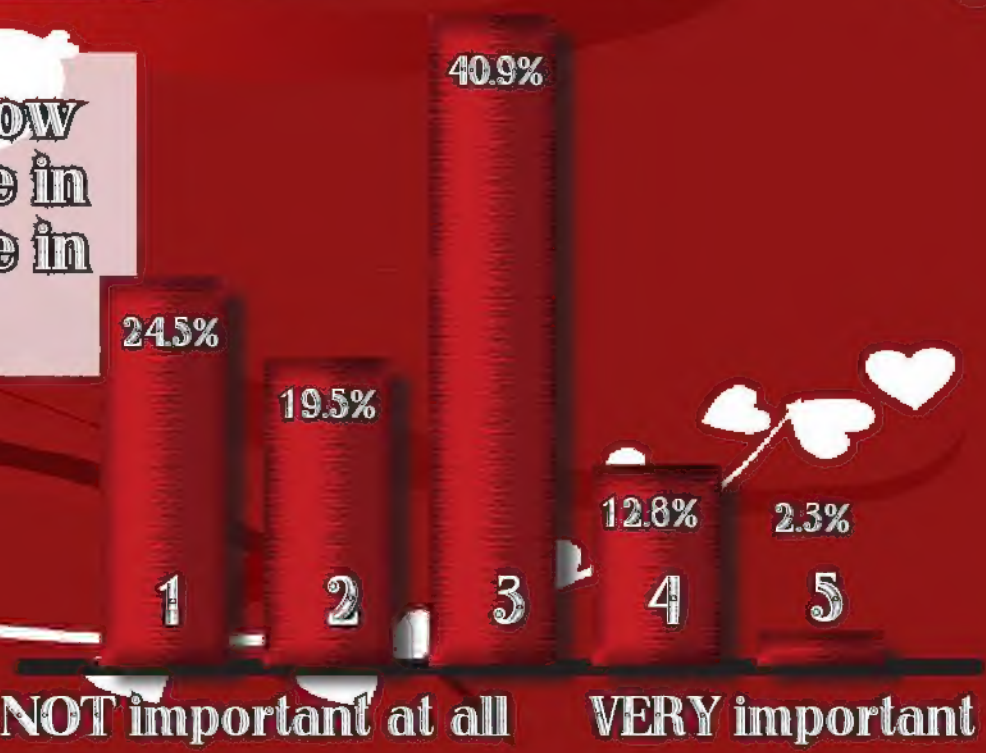
-Being kind-
-Finding a balance-
-Communication-
-Support-
-Separate identities-

http://teenshealth.org/en/teens/healthy-relationship.html
http://www.realsimple.com/work-life/family/relationships/healthy-relationship-signs

Student Poll

300 students polled

On a scale of 1-5, how important is it to be in a relationship while in high school?



Northwest athletes look to continue their athletic careers

BRENDEN HOLLING
STAFF WRITER

In the 2015-2016 year, Northwest High School had eleven student athletes sign to play sports at the collegiate level. Football had the most signed with six athletes; that included Christian Ellsworth to the University of Northern Iowa, Brook Brown to the University of Nebraska at Kearney, Mark Zepeda to Peru State College, Brandon Gannon to Doane College, and Jackson Evans and Austin Dammann both going to Midland University. For volleyball, Bailey Parr signed with Concordia University. For softball, Audrey Quandt also signed with Concordia University and Alyssa Vanosdall signed with Peru State College. For golf, Austin Bartlett signed with Doane College and Emily Jeffers with Midland University. Kayla Bachle also committed to Doane College.

For most of these athletes, it was a tough choice to decide where they were going. Each had a good reason, and usually a big influence was the key to the decision.

"The University of Northern Iowa (UNI) was the perfect fit for me academically and athletically. I really clicked with (UNI head coach) Coach Farley and committed to him on my visit. The coaches and players at UNI are a blue collar family and are going to be a great fit for me," Ellsworth said.

Although these athletes go to the college for the athletics, academics is just as a big part of the decision.

"I decided to go to Concordia based on the education I would receive, the staff, professors, the coaches I met, and the environment of the school. Concordia is also far enough away from Grand Island that it will be a new experience, but will also give me the ability to come home every now and then. The school also offered me scholarships based on my grades and athletics that helped me make a final decision," Quandt said.

College sports hold a new experience and opportunity for these athletes. The student athletes are excited for the new moment in their lives. They are anxiously awaiting their first year of college. They will start their training fall of 2016.

Brook Brown, Christian Ellsworth, Austin Dammann, Jackson Evans, Mark Zepeda, and Brandon Gannon sign their letters of intent.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

"I am most excited about making new friends and meeting new people in college. I'm also really excited to decorate my dorm," Parr said.

Students are excited for a variety of reasons.

"I'm excited to meet all the new people in college and create new relationships. I can't wait to be on my own and have the chance to continue playing football," Gannon said.

Although the athletes are excited to move on in their collegiate career, it's hard to move on from the memories made at Northwest in the last four years.

"I am going to miss the atmosphere that Northwest had to offer. It's an amazing school, but I think the thing I'll miss the most will have to be the coaches. I feel like I wouldn't be going to college if it wasn't for them and the amazing job they have done for me. Especially my favorite coach, Mr. Moerer. He has supported me in my decision the most at Northwest even though he went to school at Doane. He is still excited that his big boy in the trenches is going to college," Dammann said.

Some students will miss their friends the most because they aren't going to the same colleges.

"I am going to miss my amazing friends the most. Kayla, Allie, Taylor, and Heather are basically my sisters and it's going to be hard leaving them. It's upsetting that we are all going to different schools but I know our friendship will never change," Parr said.

Northwest boys golf team gets ready to tee off

BRENDEN HOLLING
STAFF WRITER

In 2016, the Northwest boys golf team hopes to improve on a somewhat below average year. The golf team has more experience than last year. The key golfers are headlined by the two returning seniors.

"Seniors Nicholas Mohler and Austin Bartlett are the most experienced returners for our team. Mohler can hit the ball far and Bartlett just signed with Doane College," boys golf coach Alex Hull said.

Not just the seniors have had previous varsity experience. Junior Tito Alcorta and sophomore Adam Mason hope to build off the action they've had.

"Alcorta and Mason have worked hard in the summer, both playing over 300 holes. Mason has improved the most by putting in the time," Hull said.

Mason, who has the least experience of the four, is very excited and ready for the season to begin.

"I would say that we have a better and more experienced team than last year. Putting in the hours in the summer hopefully will and should pay off in the season," Mason said.

The golfers acknowledge that golf isn't as pouplar of a sport as football or baseball.

"I know most of it is boring to watch, but it takes skill to play golf. Most people can't play golf and it's just as difficult as any other sport out there," Mason said.

There are many reasons to play golf, but Alcorta says it's a good skill to have.

"You can play golf for the rest of your life. Most sports aren't that way. It's a good skill and experience to have for your life," Alcorta said.

As for the season, the players have set high goals for each individual and for the whole team as well.

"I hope to medal at each tournament that I compete at," Mason said.

"I hope to qualify for the state tournament this year," Alcorta said.

Hull has also set goals and expectations for the entire team.

"We haven't had a state qualifier since 2010, so it's my expectation to have at least one person qualify. My goal is for the whole team to qualify," Hull said.

Junior Tito Alcorta prepares to swing at a tournament last golf season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TITO ALCORTA

Deadpool slashes his way to your heart

AUSTIN FRANSISCO
STAFF WRITER

If you have ever wanted a superhero movie where the hero kills everyone, then *Deadpool* is the film for you.

Deadpool is the newest Marvel film made by Fox. The film is a superhero comedy that takes place in the X-men universe. The film is about the titular hero, Deadpool, as he tries to get revenge on the people who ruined his life. The film stars Ryan Reynolds and is directed by Tim Miller.

Deadpool is probably one of the funniest films to come out in quite a while. Right at the start, as the opening credits began, my theater was already struggling to contain their laughter. This kept up throughout the rest of the movie, and, even when there weren't too many jokes being made, I still had a giant grin on my face for 90% of the movie.

The film never takes itself too seriously; however, it has its serious moments when it needs to. The movie knows what it is and constantly makes fun of itself--as well as the other *X-Men* movies. *Deadpool* even breaks the fourth wall several times to have a conversation with the audience.

Ryan Reynolds is perfectly casted as *Deadpool*. He is able to make fun of everything [and everyone] while still being charming and likeable. But don't go to this movie if you're looking for Ryan Reynolds's hot bod because Deadpool's mutation makes him look very ugly.

The rest of the cast filled their roles very well with two standouts. Morena Baccarin plays Vanessa [Deadpool's love interest]. She plays the part with a lot of energy and has great chemistry with Ryan Reynolds. The other big standout in *Deadpool* is T.J. Miller who will make you laugh every time he opens his mouth.

Even the soundtrack in *Deadpool* is hilarious. Some of the songs used in *Deadpool* include "Shoop" by Salt-N-Peppa and "Careless Whisper" performed by Wham!. Both used perfectly in the film.

The film definitely earns its R rating. *Deadpool* cuts through people while swearing like a sailor, but that is all a part of the charm of *Deadpool*.

Speaking of cutting through people, the action in *Deadpool* is filmed very well. You can always tell what's going on during the action scenes, unlike many other modern action movies. The mix of action and comedy flows really well together during these scenes. There isn't too much CGI in *Deadpool*, but when they use it, it looks good.

Overall, there aren't many bad things I can say about *Deadpool*. The only time *Deadpool* felt slow was maybe during his origin, but the movie was still funny at that point so I didn't mind watching some slower parts.

I would definitely recommend *Deadpool* to anyone [who is of age] that thinks they might be interested in watching it.

Spend an afternoon at Afternooner's Restaurant

LACIE NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Meeting up with loved ones who have returned from a long trip is always a good time full of laughter, hugs, and food. Yes, food. In Grand Island's local airport, there's a small, unheard-of cafe called Afternooner's.

After dropping my parents off for a flight to Las Vegas, my brother, grandma, and I decided to watch the plane take off and grab some grub from the restaurant.

Despite its small size and remote location, the place was actually pretty busy. It wasn't very large, and a lot of the tables were filled. However, the tables that were open were well cleaned.

The place is set up kind of oddly, but it is fairly efficient. First we ordered like one would at a fast food restaurant like McDonald's. The menu had a large selection and the ordering process was very specific to minimize mistakes. After we paid, we chose our seats and waited for the food to be brought to us.

The table we sat at was clean and right next to the window, so we were able to watch the planes land and take off.

The overall atmosphere of the place was nice. It was cozy and busy, but it was not too loud that you couldn't carry a conversation. The staff was friendly and efficient and had a good time with some of the older people that came in.

After only about 20 minutes or less, our food arrived. The fries were superb and the burger was pretty good. There was only one mistake, but I didn't really need the pickle on the side that badly. Overall, I gave our meals an excellent rating--especially for the prices.

The sign outside of Afternooner's Restaurant directs people in; the restaurant is located in the Central Nebraska Regional Airport

PHOTO BY LACIE NELSON

The cost of the burger was only $6 and the fries $3. The drink came completely free with the meal and included free refills.

After our meal was finished, the staff brought us boxes for the leftovers without being asked. There were no waiters or waitresses because you order at the front, but the staff was still attentive.

The rating I gave the place was [drumroll, please] a 98%! [They forgot my pickle, remember?]

The only suggestion I'd have is to expand the place. Maybe it's just the day I went, but the tables were nearly all taken up and the three of us ended up sitting at a table that seated six.

Other than that, the place was clean, the service was good, and the food was inexpensive.

If you're looking to have a reunion with an old friend who's flown in, or you just want a place to order good food with a chill vibe and maybe a friend or two, try Afternooner's sometime. It's not exactly the place to do your homework [it's a bit too loud for that], but you can definitely read or write [it's not quite that loud]. The hours are 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday and on Sundays. So if you're available at any of those times, I would recommend going down to Afternooner's at the airport to try it out.

Letter to the senior class

Mitchell Evans
STAFF WRITER

Your time here at Northwest is shrinking fast. You have about two months left of your high school life.

You have many events to prepare for in the next couple months like: getting things done for college, setting up your graduation party, and [most importantly] graduating.

You have spent your entire life preparing to graduate; you have made many memories along the way. Family has helped you, teachers have inspired you, and friends have been there to help ease the stress of school.

You will be leaving high school soon, going off on your own to whatever new adventure awaits you. Before you can do that, though, you have to graduate, so make sure you do well in these last couple months so that you can walk across that stage and get your diploma.

Northwest has left an imprint on you and your life just as much as you have onto it--whether that be good or bad.

You have spent the last four years of your life facing both academic and extracurricular challenges that Northwest has given you. It has only given you these challenges to help you succeed and have fun.

You have gained many memories over the years; they were all collected just to build up to the one memory that will stick with you forever. Graduation.

With your futures hanging over your heads, now is not the time to give up; now is the time to prepare for what comes next.

With this being your last year in high school, you will be going out into a big world -- free to make your own decision. You will be able to do what you want.

There is a quote by Dr. Suess that we as seniors can relate to in terms of leaving to start our new great adventure.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. You are the guy who'll decide where to go."

Just remember to thank the people who helped you along the way. One last thing, we did it, class of 2016.

CONGRATULATIONS
to the Northwest wrestlers who participated in State!

Austin Cooper
State Runner-up [160]

Mark Zepeda
4th Place medalist [285]

Grayson Fries
State Qualifier [106]

Austin Dammann
State Qualifier [220]

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Library Summer Worker
Maintenance Worker - Heartland Public Shooting Park

For more information and to apply, visit
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Don't forget to buy your tickets to *Shrek the Musical*!

Shows:
Wednesday, March 16th-Show for NWHS 1:00pm
Thursday, March 17th - 7:30pm
Friday, March 18th - 7:30pm
Saturday, March 19th - 1:30 & 7:30pm
Sunday, March 20th - 2:30pm

General Admission $18.00

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Senior Spotlight

BRENDEN HOLLING
STAFF WRITER

Will Mettenbrink

Age: 18

Middle School: One-R

Activities: Basketball, Football, Baseball

Plans after high school: Attend UNL and major in business.

Advice: Involve yourself in some sort of activity.

Interesting fact: I have been involved in sports since I was five.

Morgan Haverluck

Age: 18

Middle School: North Bend Central

Activites: FFA, Band, NHS, Showing Cattle

Plans after high school: Attend Northeast or NCTA, study Animal Agriculture and go on to own a large herd of beef/dairy cattle while crop farming.

Advice: Be as involved as you can; just don't overwhelm yourself.

Interesting fact: I've attended three different high schools.

Kadin Romans

Age: 17

Middle School: Cedar Hollow

Activities: Indoor and Outdoor soccer

Plans after high school: Attend UNO; I'm still unsure on a major.

Advice: Be smart.

Interesting Fact: I've lived in Tennessee.

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